

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A device for cleaning tanks, comprising:
a hollow, continuous, rigid pipe having a straight portion
10 and a curved portion, the straight portion having a connecting
end for connecting to a source of cleaning fluid, the curved
portion being substantially semicircular and having a nozzle end
for emitting a stream of cleaning fluid.
2. The device of claim 1 wherein the curved portion is tapered
15 to form the nozzle end.
3. The device of claim 1 wherein the nozzle end further
comprises a connector and a detachable nozzle.
4. The device of claim 1 wherein said pipe is made from
plastic.
- 20 5. The device of claim 1 wherein said pipe has an inside
diameter of 3/4 inches and the curved portion has a radius of
about 15 inches.
6. The device of claim 1 wherein the connecting end comprises a
coupling which is rotatable through 360°.
- 25 7. The device of claim 2 wherein the nozzle end of the pipe is
sufficiently reduced in diameter so as to increase the velocity
of the fluid exiting therefrom.
8. The device of claim 1 wherein the pipe is made from steel,
aluminum or fiberglass.

9. A method for cleaning tanks, comprising:

- (a) inserting a tank cleaning device into a tank, the tank cleaning device comprising a hollow, continuous, rigid pipe having a center axis, straight portion and a curved portion, the straight portion having a connecting end for connecting to a source of cleaning fluid, the curved portion being substantially semicircular and having a center point and a nozzle end;
- (b) supplying a source of pressurized cleaning fluid to the tank cleaning device to cause a jet of cleaning fluid to be emitted from the nozzle end; and
- (c) rotating the tank cleaning device about the center axis and the center point to cause the jet of cleaning fluid to impinge on an interior wall of the tank.
10. The method of claim 9 wherein the jet of cleaning fluid impinges on the interior wall in a sweeping motion.
11. The method of claim 9 wherein the jet of cleaning fluid is directed sequentially from an upper interior surface of the tank to a lower interior surface.
12. The method of claim 9 wherein containinated cleaning fluid is removed from the tank through a discharge port in the bottom of the tank.

5 13. A device for cleaning tanks, comprising: a flexible hose
having a nozzle and connectable to a source of cleaning
fluid; the hose being disposed within a hollow, continuous,
rigid pipe having a straight portion, and a curved portion;
the curved portion being substantially semicircular and an
10 open end; the nozzle being disposed in the open end of the
curved portion.

14. The device of claim 13 wherein the flexible hose is a high
pressure, heat resistant, braided rubber hose.

15. The device of claim 13 wherein said pipe is made from
15 aluminum, steel fiberglass or plastic.

16. A method for cleaning tanks, comprising;
(a) inserting a tank cleaning device into a tank, a flexible hose
having a nozzle and connectable to a source of cleaning fluid,
the flexible hose being disposed within a hollow, continuous, rigid
20 pipe having a center axis, a straight portion and a curved
portion, the curved portion being substantially semicircular and
having a center point and an open end; the nozzle being disposed
in the open end of the curved portion.

(b) Applying a source of pressurized cleaning fluid to the hose
25 to cause a jet of cleaning fluid to be emitted from the nozzle;
and

(c) rotating the tank cleaning device about the center axis and
the center point to cause the jet of cleaning fluid to impinge on
an interior wall of the tank.

- 5 17. The method of claim 16 wherein the jet of cleaning fluid impinges on the interior wall in sweeping motion.
18. The method of claim 16 wherein the jet of cleaing fluid id directed sequentially from an upper interior surface of the tank to a lower interior surface.
- 10 19. The method of claimn 16 wherein contaminated cleaning fluid is removed from the tank through a discharge port in the bottom of the tank.